IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
	:	Examiner: Aung S. Moe
TETSUYA ITANO ET AL.)	
	:	Group Art Unit: 2612
Application No.: 09/976,096)	
	:	Confirmation No.: 9346
Filed: October 15, 2001)	
	:	
For: IMAGE PICKUP APPARATUS)	September 19, 2005

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of the Japanese patent document, together with an English-language abstract thereof, is attached.

Cited Japanese Patent Application No. 11-330444 was first cited in an Official Letter/Search Report issued by the Chinese Patent Office on June 24, 2005, in Chinese Patent Application No. 2004100036264, not more than three months prior to the filing date of this Statement. The listed U.S. document corresponds to the listed Japanese patent document. The Official Letter/Search Report is also listed on the Form PTO-1449, and a copy is attached.

It is respectfully requested that the cited information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be initialed and returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael J. Didas

Attorney for Applicants Registration No. 55,112

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MJD:eyw

Date submitted to PTC: September 19, 200\$ SEP 1 9 2005 U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS "EXAMINER INITIAL DATE NAME CLASS SUBCLASS FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE OF THE PROPRIATE OF THE PR	FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OF ICE E		ATTY DOCKET NO. 03500.015873 APPLICATION NO. 09/976,096 APPLICANT				
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OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)			THER DOCUMENTS) (Including Author Title Date Pertinent Pages Ftc.)			
Chinese Search Report issued in application no. 2004100036264 on June 24, 2005.							
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^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.